June 7, 1955

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Dear Georg:

Thank you for your flattering letter. I am sure Esther and I enjoyed the experience as much as you say you did.

I am sending a copy of the revised discussion, which I have just mailed to the Editor. If you have any comment or suggested change, I will be pleased to have it; the galley proofs will supposedly be open for corrections.

I am asking whether it will be possible to secure reprints of the discussion separately. If not, would you permit me to purchase about 25 copies of the entire reprint when they make them up for you? I will let you know what they say about my own request.

When you have the time, I wonder if you could write down your experiment on the "conditioning" of tumors in the F_1 hybrids. Did you also tell me something to the effect that apparently new histocompatibility factors, unrelated to those of either parent had appeared in some of these grafts?— this would rule out any simple substitution of genetic material from the host.

We have lately been struggling with the terminology of transduction genetics and will probably adopt the following scheme.

The fragment which is being transduced = genote, or exogenote to emphasize that it has come from outside the cell.
A cell which has just received the fragment = syngenote.
A cell which has a fragment of different constitution from the intact chromosome, both persisting = heterogenote. (if the same constitution, homogenote).
A region of an intact chromosome, corresponding to the exogenote = endogenote.

We are still debating: exogenation = breaking up of chromosome of the donor and/or their incorporation into phage particles.
endogenation = implantation of the fragment into the recipient chromosome (crossing-over, actually).
We have decided not to coin special terms for donor, recipient, and the transformed clone (which is sometimes not the same as the immediate syngenote), at least not yet. If only as jargon, I mention these terms as possibly helpful in discussing experiments.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg